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- (56) Documents Cited

GB 2247068 A US 4510770 A

EP 0499013 A1 US 4368625 A

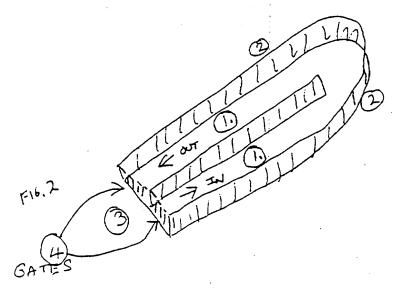
US 4194647

Field of Search

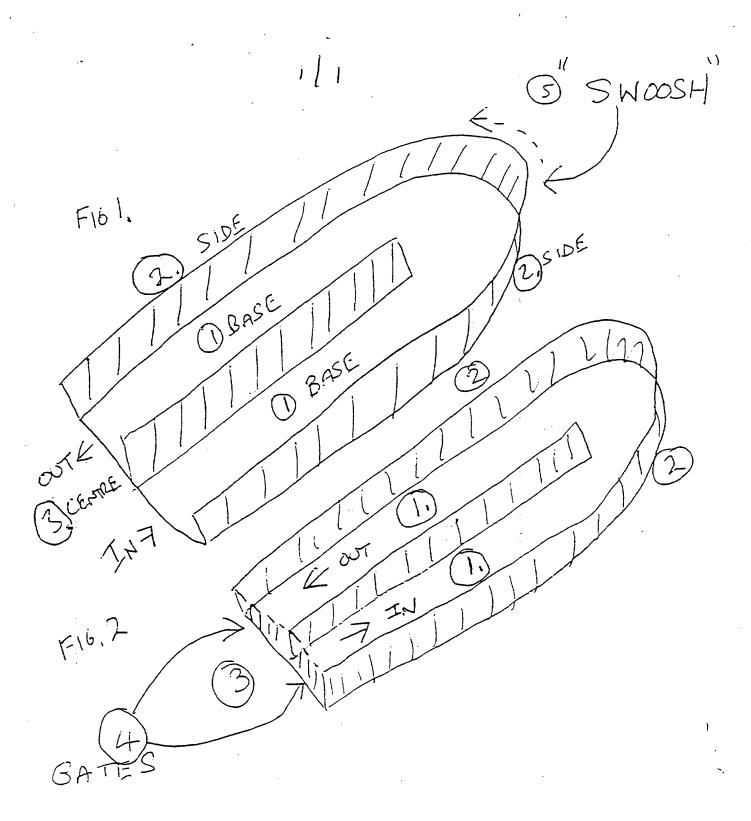
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(54) Abstract Title Shelving for a refrigerated cabinet

(57) Shelving for storing beer in a refrigerated cabinet is in the form of a U allowing the coldest beer to be served first to the customer. New bottles are placed onto the shelving at the entrance to the U, allowing efficient stock rotation. The shelving may be removable for cleaning purposes. The shelving may include spring mounted entrance and exit gates (4).



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THE SWOOSHER

- A. THE SWOOSHER IS A DEVICE THAT ENSURES THE COLDEST STOCK UNIT IS DISPENSED.
- COLD CABINETS ARE NORMALLY IRREGULARLY FILLED AND THEREFORE RANDOM DECISIONS ARE FREQUENTLY MADE WHEN DISPENSING A UNIT FROM A COLD CABINET. HEALTH AND SAFETY IS ALSO PROPOSITIONED AS STAFF OFTEN "EMPTY" CABINETS TO ENSURE THAT FRESHLY PLACED UNITS I.E. WARM UNITS BECOME EMPLACED AT THE CABINET'S REAR. LOOSE UNITS (I.E. BOTTLES, CANS, ETC) MAY LITTER THE WORKPLACE CAUSING POTENTIAL ACCIDENTS, TIME AND ENERGY IS WASTED.
- C. CURRENT PROCEDURES ALLOW STAFF TO DEPOSIT UNITS RANDOMLY IN THE COLD CABINET. THE SWOOSHER WILL HAVE AN IDENTIFIABLE "IN" FOR WARM AND "OUT" FOR COLD. IT IS UNIMPORTANT WHICH AVENUE IS CHOSEN
- FIG 1 SHOWNS AN OPEN SWOOSHER I.E. ONE WITH NO GATES.

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- FIG 2. SHOWS ONE WITH GATES ON EITHER SIDE 4. THERE MAY BE ONE GATE/TWO GATES/EITHER FIXED OR SPRING MOUNTED OR BRUSH MOUNTED THE GATES ARE NOT FUNDAMENTAL.
- FIG 1. THE "SWOOSH" 5 MAY BE ASSISTED BY BALL BEARINGS, TURNTABLES AND SO ON

THE SWOOSHER CAN BE BUILT INDIVIDUALLY OR IN GROUPS OR AS PART OF A SHELVING SYSTEM BUILT BY SUITABLE MATERIALS.

Claims

The 'swoosher' boasts ten improvements to conventional practises.

- It ensures consistently the coldest beer is presented to the customer, thus saving staff time in searching / restocking the cabinets.
- It enables easy re-stocking as the items literally 'swoosh' around the unit.
- 3. The "oldest bottles" can be inserted thus providing efficient 'stock rotation' ensuring 'old' items (ie., past their 'sell buy' dates) don't linger in the cabinet unnoticed.
- 4. Stock control / stocktaking is simplified as the sides of the units can be 'notched' to identify the quantity of contents 'at a glance'.
- 5. The front gate can be 'personalised' to incorporate a corporations / hotels / pubs / beers logo. This is a tremendous advertising bonus especially in the promotion of new products.
- 6. From point 5. To enhance the longevity and flexibility of the 'swoosher' self adhesive labels will be provided that simply cover any existing logo. This is practical as drinks come in and go out of fashion.
- 7. The 'swoosher' saves on staff training as it is foolproof.
- 8. It provides neater presentation of products as staff normally pack coolers in a haphazard way.
- It provides an efficient storage system, for example when coolers have to be cleaned the 'swooshers' can be removed and replaced entirely, thus saving handling lots of bottles / cans etc.
- 10. The 'swoosher' is available in a wide range of colours so should a corporation wish to highlight a product generally it can do so with ease.





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GB 9707253.2

Claims searched: All **Examiner:**

M C Monk

Date of search:

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Patents Act 1977 Search Report under Section 17

Databases searched:

UK Patent Office collections, including GB, EP, WO & US patent specifications, in:

UK Cl (Ed.P): F4H (H2A, H3)

Int Cl (Ed.6): A47F (3/04); F25D (25/00, 25/04)

Other:

Documents considered to be relevant: 14

ategory Identity of document and relevant passage		Relevant to claims
GB 2247068 A	INVICTA PLASTICS LTD Consider whole document	Ali
EP 0499013 A1	TSUNG-MING WANG Consider whole document	All
US 5247798	ELWOOD H CARPENTER Consider whole document	All
US 4510770	THOMAS K ZIEGLER Consider whole document	Ail
US 4368625	WHIRLPOOL CORPORATION Consider whole document	All
US 4194647	HARRY A SPURRIER Consider whole document	All
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Document indicating lack of novelty or inventive step Document indicating lack of inventive step if combined with one or more other documents of same category.

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